

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 A-01 USSS-00 OPR-01

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O P 181323Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8969

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2573

LIMDIS

NAIROBI ALSO FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, TZ, CG, US

SUBJ: ALLEGED BOMB PLOT AGAINST EMBASSY

1. EMBASSY WAS APPROACHED AFTERNOON JULY 16 BY AFRICAN OFFERING TO DISCLOSE DETAILS OF ALLEGED PLAN BY ZAIREN EMBASSY IN DAR ES SALAAM, ON ORDERS FROM MOBUTU, TO ATTACK AMERICAN EMBASSY BUILDINGS, RESIDENCES, CARS, ETC., WITH BOMBS.

2. AFRICAN IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS JACK JOHN, 27 YEARS OLD, BORN TUKUYU. SAID HE EMPLOYED SINCE DECENBER 1971 BY STATE HOUSE (PRESIDENT'S OFFICE). HAS BROTHER JOHN MWANGOSI, AGED 35, WHO WENT TO U.S. IN 1965 FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND NOW EMPLOYED AS ENGINEER AT KENNEDY AIRPORT NEW YORK. SAYS FATHER IS EDWARD MWANGOSI, FORMER TANZANIAN COMMISSIONER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE, NOW WITH WORLD CHURCH ORGANIZATION IN GENEVA. (NOTE: WHO'S WHO IN EAST AFRICA, 1967-68, LISTS TUBIKUMOYO EDWARD JOHN MWANGOSI, B. TUKUYU 1913, AS COMMISSIONER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE IN 1967). JACK JOHN HAS NOT, DESPITE PROMISES, SHOWN US ANY IDENTIFICATION PAPERS.

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3. JOHN SAID HE WAS RECENTLY ON MISSION TO NAIROBI ON EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY BUSINESS WHEN HE MET AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE, KAIVASHA MABATI (PHONETIC), WHO SECOND SECRETARY ZAIRE EMBASSY NAIROBI. MABATI TOLD HIM GOZ FURIOUS WITH US FOR HAVING PROVED BE FALSE FRIEND, AND EVIDENTLY SUGGESTED JOHN LOOK UP HIS OTHER ACQUAINTANCES ZAIRE EMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM.

4. JOHN SAID HE MET WITH TWO ZAIRIAN ACQUAINTANCES IN EMBASSY WHEN HE RETURNED; THEY NOW ANTI-MOBUTU BECAUSE THEIR BROTHERS ARRESTED IN RECENT MILITARY PURGES FOLLOWING ZAIRE COUP RUMORS, AND THINKING OF DEFECTING. BUT THEY TOOK HIM TO SEE EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY (JOHN IDENTIFIED HIM FROM DIPLOMATIC LIST AS LEMBA NE KENSI NZINGA, WHO IS NUMBER 2 AT EMBASSY), WHO SHOWED HIM LETTER IN FRENCH FROM MOBUTU TO ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR IN DAR INSTRUCTING LATTER TO OBTAIN BOMBS AND PREPARE A ONE-DAY CAMPAIGN AGAINST AMERICAN OFFICIAL INSTALLATIONS, VEHICLES, ETC. LETTER ALLEGEDLY INDICATED MOBUTU ANGRY WITH NYERERE FOR NOT SHUTTING DOWN AMERICAN EMBASSY. JOHN SAID LEMBA SHOVED WRAPPED PACKAGE BEHIND DESK WITH HIS FOOT, WHICH HE SURMISED CONTAINED BOMBS. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION LEMBA ALSO ASSERTED KIDNAPPING OF AMERICAN STUDENTS FROM TANZANIA WAS CIA PLOT TO CREATE TROUBLE BETWEEN TANZANIA AND ZAIRE. JOHN TOLD US HE UNDERSTOOD LETTER FROM MOTUTU WAS DELIVERED BY ZAIRIAN OFFICIAL ATTENDING TANZANIAN JULY 7 CELEBRATIONS, AND AT ANOTHER MOMENT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD BOMBS HAD BEEN DELIVERED BY ZAIRIAN PLANE SEVERAL DAYS LATER.

5. JOHN SAYS HE PRO-AMERICAN BECAUSE OF BROTHER AND OF POSSIBLE DESIRE IMMIGRATE TO U.S. CLAIMS HE PRETENDED TO BE ANTI-AMERICAN AND EAGER PARTICIPATE IN BOMBING PLOT, AND ASKED FOR AND WAS PROMISED PHOTOCOPY OF MOBUTU LETTER IN ORDER PROVIDE HIS BONAFIDES IN RECRUITING OTHER AGENTS FOR PLOT.

6. JOHN TOLD EMBOFF JULY 16 THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO EMBASSY FOLLOWING DAY WITH COPY OF LETTER. IN EVENING HE PHONED AN EMBASSY SECRETARY (WITH WHOM HE HAD INITIATED HIS FIRST CONTACT) AND TOLD HER HE UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING LETTER AND MAYBE IT WOULD HAVE TO BE BOUGHT. HE RETURNED MORNING JULY 17, WITHOUT LETTER OR ANY MORE DOCUMENTATION, AND WAS INTERROGATED AT SOMEWHAT GREATER LENGTH BY DIFFERENT EMBOFF (INFORMATION ABOVE GLEANED FROM BOTH MEETINGS). HE DID NOT MENTION MONEY AND PROMISED TO RE-CONFIDENTIAL

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TURN TO EMBASSY AT 11:00 A.M. WITH COPY OF LETTER AND WITH ALLEGED DISSIDENT ZAIRIAN ACQUAINTANCES FROM ZAIRE EMBASSY. TO DATE, HE HAS NOT DONE SO.

7. JOHN IS MEDIUM HEIGHT, VERY DARK COMPLEXION, WITH VERY SMALL GOATEE BEARD, AND AN ANGULAR, "FEVERISH" APPEARANCE. HE SPEAKS QUICK, QUITE WELL EDUCATED, BUT SOMETIMES HARD TO CATCH ENGLISH.

HE WAS QUITE NERVOUS, AND EMBOFF SOMETIMES FELT HE WAS INVENTING ANSWERS TO SOME QUESTIONS AS THEY CAME ALONG. BUT HE HAS STUCK TO STORY AND INSISTS HE GLAD TO BE QUESTIONED AND INVESTIGATED.

8. COMMENT: WE WILL REPORT FURTHER IF JOHN SHOWS UP AGAIN. IN MEANTIME WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT ADDRESSEES CAN CAST ON HIS STORY; E.G., IDENTITY OF ZAIRIAN DIPLOMAT IN NAIROBI, EXISTENCE OF BROTHER AND FATHER IN U.S. AND GENEVA. ANY LIGHT RELATIVES CAN CAST ON HIS IDENTITY AND MENTAL HEALTH WOULD BE OF INTEREST. JOHN'S STORY SEEMS INHERENTLY IMPROBABLE, BUT IMPROBABLE THINGS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO OCCUR ON THIS CONTINENT. MORE LIKELY, IT IS COMPOUND OF ONE OR MORE OF FOLLOWING: MENTAL INSTABILITY (JOHN CAN BE DISCONCERTINGLY VAGUE AT TIMES), CUPIDITY (HE HAS HINTED AT MONEY, DESPITE HIS CLAIMED SELF-SACRIFICING ALTRUISTIC MOTIVES), OR PROVOCATION (ON BEHALF OF ZAIRE, TANZANIA, OR OTHERS). WE STRONGLY SUSPECT JOHN OF HAVING CONNECTIONS WITH TANZANIAN SECURITY POLICE.
CARTER

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